Canadian Manhood

(Continuing "IDEAL MEN")

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National Council of Young Men's Christian Associations of Canada
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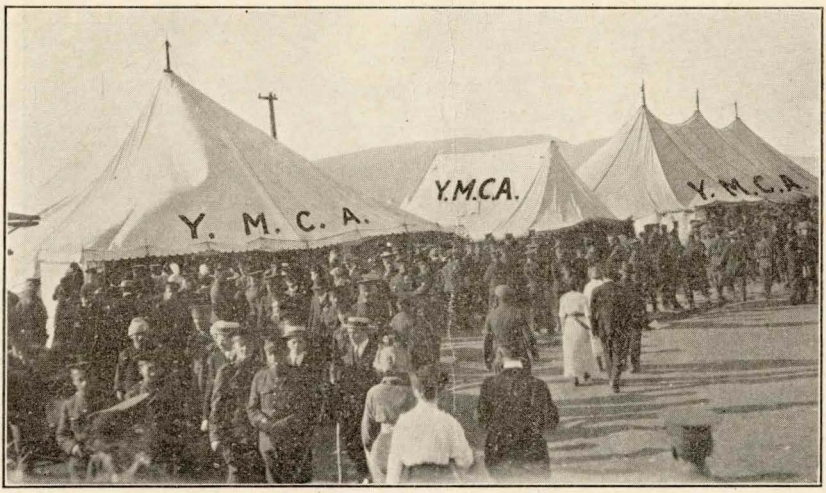

Y.M.C.A. Tents Popular at Valcartier.

DENNISTEEL
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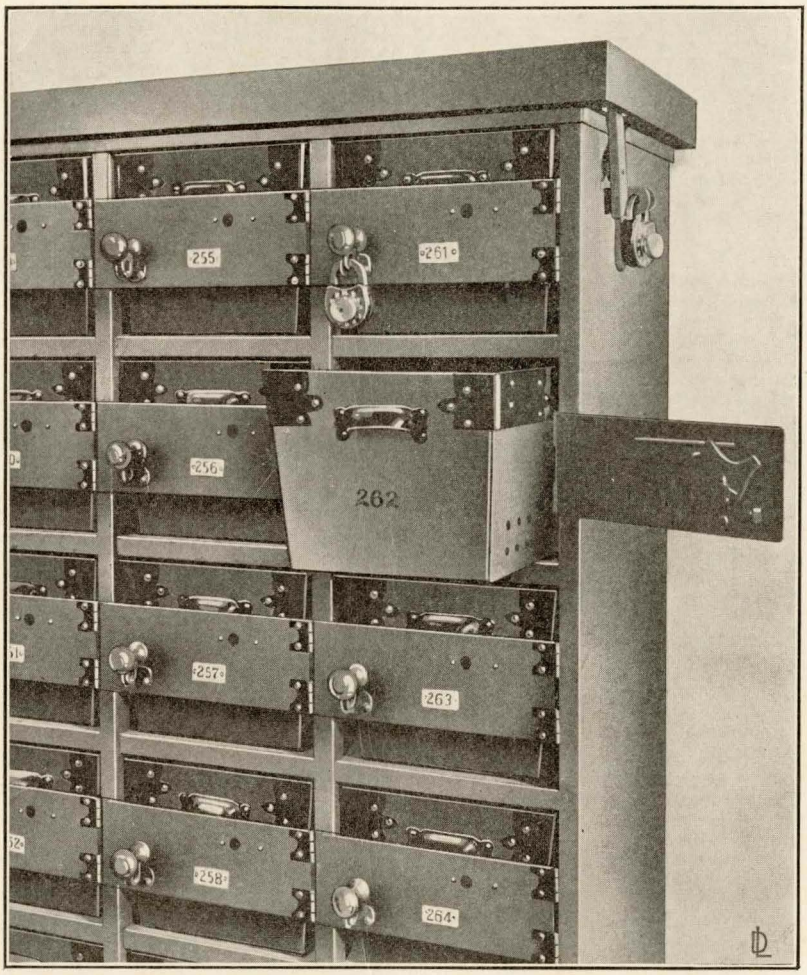
UNIT-CONSTRUCTION

LOCKERS AND SHELVING



Pictured above is one type of our special Y.M.C.A. equipment. These Cabinets and Tote Boxes, with the necessary Lockers, were supplied the Y.M.C.A. at Galt, Ontario. Gladly we will discuss your Locker-room problems with you. There is no style of such equipment we do not manufacture.

THE DENNIS WIRE AND IRON WORKS CO. LIMITED
LONDON
CANADA

CANADIAN MANHOOD

(Continuing "Ideal Men")

Published quarterly by the NATIONAL COUNCIL OF YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATIONS OF CANADA, 15 Toronto Street, Toronto, Canada.

Publication Committee:
MESSRS. CHARLES W. BISHOP, National Secretary; FRANK YEIGH and HENRY YEIGH.

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VOL. I. NEW SERIES TORONTO, CANADA, OCTOBER, 1914 NO. 3

THE ASSOCIATION AND THE WAR.

C. W. Bishop.

NOTHING can be done in this day of the terrible war cloud except in the light of this colossal tragedy. The Young Men's Christian Associations of Canada might appear to be sufficiently remote from the aggressive ambitions of the Kaiser of Germany to be unaffected by the war he has precipitated, but such is not the case and we must view all our work now in the light of its disturbing influence.

What effect should the war have on institutions for moral and religious betterment? These have grown up in times of peace and are born of the spirit that makes peace among men. Is their work to go backward when the hand of the nation is compelled to grasp the sword? We cannot believe that it should or will. As institutions we may have to make radical changes, to suffer retrenchment in budget and staff, to decrease our programme of activities, and withhold plans of extensions, but the moral and spiritual fruits of the work may at the same time be increased. There is more need than ever for it. In the day when the qualities of strength are being tested in men of every vocation there is more work for the institution that helps to build strong men. There are more men in need of friendship, in need of practical service, in need of spiritual guidance, and more boys in need of character moulding influences. There are greater opportunities opened to us. The war has produced a widespread temper of seriousness that gives every religious institution an opportunity to direct the thought to religious subjects. There never was a time that called for such earnest prayer, and every religious organization has an unprecedented opportunity to call out and direct the prayer spirit. With greater need and greater opportunity we have reason to expect that there will be also a greater manifestation of the power of God to sustain and guide our work during this time of testing.

The immediate problem that faces every Association is that of maintaining its life financially. The unsettled business conditions have already and will more in the future cut off some of our sources of income. Many young men will be unable to afford their usual membership fee. Many interested contributors will be compelled to withhold their contributions this year. This makes wise retrenchment the

order of the day. The instinct of caution is called for in every administrative officer in the Association. There is no wisdom in ignoring the storm and refusing to reef the sail to meet it. But, on the other hand, there should be nothing of panic or retreat in these retrenchments. We should not imagine difficulties where there are none, nor talk about retreat until we have fought our hardest to hold our present positions.

And retrenchment in the size of budgets need not mean a lowering of the efficiency or a lessening of the fruits of the Association. It will challenge to an intensive development not dependent upon money. It will stimulate to an increase in volunteer service. It will inspire to an increased efficiency in the work of each Secretary. It will shift the point of emphasis to spiritual results which are of the kind whose increase is not dependent upon money. It will tend to the sluffing off of lines of activity, that while desirable, are expensive and are not the chief objective of our work. We have been demonstrating for the past decade what we can achieve with money, we are now challenged to show what we can do without money. Extensive development is largely dependent upon money, but intensive development is chiefly dependent on spiritual resources that are not depleted by the war.

But while the war has brought to our work plenty of troubles, it has also brought one of the greatest opportunities ever opened to the Canadian Association Brotherhood. With the assembling of Canadian troops in numbers unprecedented in our history came the open door to the service of many thousands of men under conditions most conducive to religious results. We were providentially prepared by years of experience in Militia Camp Work, by the fruits of the work of our representatives in the South African War, and by the favor, never so highly marked, of soldiers, officers, and government authorities. In a very special sense the Association was ready to act as the representative of the whole church in bringing evangelical religious influences into Canada's greatest Military Camp. The fruits of this great opportunity are already recorded in the annals of Christian achievement in this land. There are unnumbered hundreds of "our boys" now off to the front possessed with a new purpose and power as a result of the preaching of the old Gospel at Valcartier.

And a further door of opportunity has been opened in the sending of six, with a seventh following, of our representatives to the front with the troops. The good work at Valcartier has been followed on the transports and will be followed in the training camp in England and possibly at the front by the faithful work of seven of our choicest men.

May we not expect that through these great testings and opportunities our work will be brought out to "large place" in the years to come.

A TIME TO PRAY.

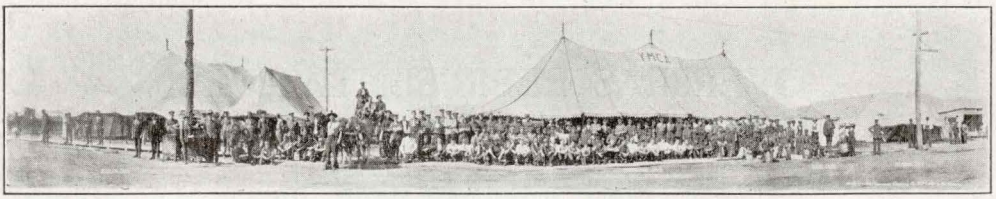
C. M. Copeland.

"PRAY without ceasing" is surely a timely exhortation in these days. Pray for ourselves that we may be purified and strengthened in faith and in life; pray for our Associations that they may not only have what they require of support, but that they may prove equal to present tasks and opportunities; pray for the Church universal in its home and foreign activities, the efficiency, not to say the existence, of some branches of which is seriously threatened; pray for our Armies and especially for our Canadian troops and the Chaplains and Association representatives with them; pray for our enemies.

OVERSEAS REPRESENTATIVES

O. D. Irwin. H. A. Pearson. Chris. Graham.

Harry Whiteman. Albert Pequegnat. A. W. Forgie.



Meetings. **Post Office.** **Dry Canteen.** **Barber.**

Front View of Y.M.C.A. Tents at Valcartier.

CANADA'S SOLDIERS

The Association's Opportunity Effectively Met—Splendid Service Rendered and Highly Appreciated—Money Required to Continue it.

The great war thrust upon the British Empire brought Canada's opportunity to show where her heart is in relation to the Empire, and the response was prompt. The call for men to go to the firing line was answered by thousands more than were asked for, and 32,000 men were gathered at Valcartier Camp, near Quebec City, and have now gone on to England.

This was the great opportunity of the Y.M.C.A. for Social and Evangelistic Service of unprecedented scope. The National Council acted energetically and effectively, as the figures which follow will show.

Mr. F. S. Shepard was assigned to have the general oversight of this special work, in co-operation with the Committee on Militia Camp Work, and Mr. T. F. Best placed in charge at Valcartier, and many strong men (over eighty in all), assisted in a hearty way.

It would take many pages to tell of the enthusiasm of the men who had a share in this wonderful effort and of the thousands who were definitely helped in a spiritual way, or of the heartfelt appreciation of officers and men. We have told some things through the special bulletins sent out and additional details are given in this issue.

This unexpected call and effective service have necessitated the spending of much money. The outfitting of the six men sent forward, each with a division of the Canadian army, has cost many dollars, and will cost heavily to maintain. The Council acted on faith in the generous support of Christians at the home base, and believe that the mere statement of the need will bring a whole-hearted response. Contributions should be sent to The National Council, 15 Toronto Street, Toronto.

SOLDIERS AT LONG BRANCH.

The three hundred men at Long Branch Camp near Toronto, for three weeks were well looked after by the Central Branch, Toronto, with F. W. Lillie in charge.

The large Marquee was utilized as a reading and social room, for religious services each evening, and also for the church service Sunday mornings.

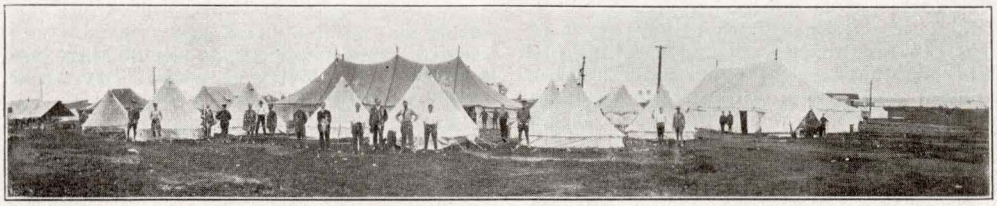
The appreciation of the work by officers and men was most encouraging.

VALCARTIER MOBILIZATION CAMP.

(Some extracts from a letter of Mr. T. F. Best).

Perhaps the greatest opportunity that has ever opened to the Canadian Y.M.C.A. was that of service among the Canadian soldiers mobilized at Valcartier Camp, and one of the greatest honours ever conferred upon me personally was to be asked by the National Council to act as chief of staff for the Y.M.C.A. workers at Valcartier. It meant responability, of course, but a real privilege and the opportunity of a life time.

T. F. Best, Chief of Staff at Valcartier Camp.



Mess Tent. **Dry Canteen.** **Meetings.**

Rear View Y.M.C.A. Bell Tents Used by Staff

Tents at Valcartier. for Sleeping Quarters.

Through the energetic efforts of Col. J. G. Langton, Vice-Chairman of our Canadian Militia Committee, permission was secured from the Minister of Militia, to carry on work similar to that accomplished in Summer Training Camps at different points for many years past, but never before was such work undertaken in as large a way in Canada, new records being established right through the programme.

A most desirable location was secured in the central part of the great Camp Grounds, with 200 feet frontage upon which five marquees and ten bell-tents were erected and work opened with post office, and correspondence tables, canteen, barber shop, shoe shine, athletics and religious meetings, and writing tables, sufficient to accommodate 200 soldiers at once. Our post office was in charge of W. W. Lee, National Secretary of Emigration work. He with his assistants numbering from three to five, were kept constantly busy giving out letter paper and envelopes gratis to the extent of 14,000 sheets of paper and envelopes to match in one day, selling over $800 worth of stamps in one day, and doing a splendid social service in the way of bringing articles for officers and men from Quebec. A small idea of the extent of this social service may be obtained from the fact that the watches taken into the city for repair averaged 75 a day and reached the high mark of 130 in one day. The average orders of this nature amounting to more then $200 per day.

One of the large marquees, 40 x 80 feet was used almost exclusively as refreshment booth, commonly called "dry canteen," in which a variety of articles in the way of clothing and refreshments were served to the soldiers at a slight advance on cost price, in charge of H. A. Pearson and A. D. Maxwell.

A barber shop and shoe shine parlor were always busy and contributed much to the cleanliness and tidy appearance of the soldiers on parade, while the mess-tent contributed its part by extra meals to employees of the camp not attached otherwise for rations,—Cadets, Surplus Officers, etc. No man was turned away hungry. Two cooks and three waiters were kept constantly busy.

A branch known as the "North Star" was opened in a marquee 30 by 60 feet about two miles north of our headquarters. Mr. Fred. Hancock, of Toronto, was put in charge. He and his two or three assistants did excellent work for the last two weeks of Camp, running a post office and canteen, reading and correspondence room and splendid Gospel services.

The Y.M.C.A. Staff included 78 men, most of them trained association men with quite a fair sprinkling of clergymen, who were considered specially qualified for work among soldiers. The highest number on the staff at any one time was 48.

Under the direction of Fred. Smith, and Thos. Armour, of Toronto, and Arthur Johnston, of Montreal, a strong programme of athletic sports was carried out most creditably and with much interest and helpfulness to the good spirits and general health of the camp.

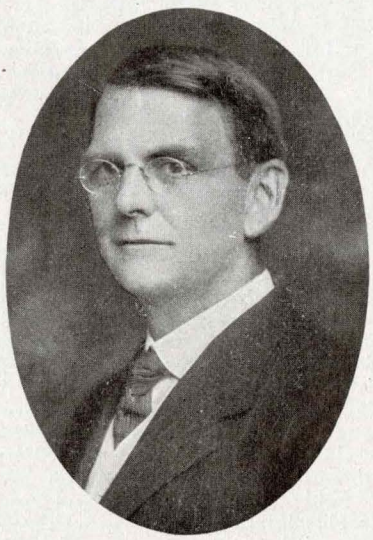
Under the direction of A. W. Forgie, National Secretary for boys' work, and Rev. Perry Park, of Toronto University, a strong religious work programme was carried out, consisting of personal evangelism during the day and Gospel services in the evenings in large marquees and around bon-fires and at moving picture exhibits, etc. Very few days but what from three to seven meetings were held simultaneously, and on one memorable Sunday, eighteen such meetings were carried out most successfully, every day the workers reporting large numbers of soldiers making the important decision for the Christian Life. The highest number in one day reported was 315; total, upwards of 2,000.

The testimonies of the men and the workers also gave evidence of a remarkable thoughtfulness and seriousness manifested by all ranks in the camp that was most encouraging, a general anxiety and desire to speak and be spoken to about spiritual matters being very apparent, experienced lead-

ers stating frequently that they never before saw anything like it and speaking of it since as the greatest opportunity and service of their lives, all agreeing that the success attending their efforts was largely due to the earnest prayers being offered by thousands of Christian workers and relatives of the soldiers throughout the country.

It would be difficult to give an adequate idea of the combination of heart, brain and muscle put into this work by all members of the Y.M.C.A. Staff, performing their duties in the splendid spirit of self-sacrifice whether it was in post office or canteen, athletic field or on transport work, cleaning up the camp or leading meetings, the co-operation of the men and the spirit of earnest zeal for the salvation of the soldiers was magnificent.

Through the good offices of F. S. Shepard, in co-operation with the other representatives and members of the National Council and assisted very materially by Colonel Langton, and Mr. W. H. Wiggs, of Quebec, permission was secured to send six of our men Overseas with the First Contingent, and it was our privilege to assist in



F. S. Shepard, Secretary of National Council, in charge of the work for Canadian Soldiers.

the selection of these men, also their training and equipment, and as a result, our associations are well represented Overseas by H. A. Pearson, and A. W. Forgie, of Toronto; Oscar Irwin, of Collingwood; Chris. Graham, of Amherst, N.S.; Albert Pequegnat, of Stratford, and Harry Whiteman, General Secretary of Quebec, a bright, brainy, well balanced, aggressive, consecrated sextette. I am proud of them and expect great things of them. Let us remember them constantly in prayer.

Acting under instructions of the National Council, I remained in charge of the Y.M.C.A. work at Valcartier until the troops had all moved out and I have since been enjoying a few days at home, awaiting further orders in regard to work among the soldiers mobilizing for a second contingent.

Let me say in concluding this hurried review, that I look upon the work among the soldiers in Valcartier Camp as the best work of my life and worth a whole lifetime if nothing had been accomplished previously and there was no further opportunity for service.—Hamilton, October 8th.

WORK AT VALCARTIER FROM ANOTHER ANGLE.

Rev. Perry Park.

Beneath the spirit of enthusiasm and apparent recklessness which prevailed at Valcartier there was a deep earnestness and seriousness. The men were glad to sing ragtime, particularly the favorite, "Its a long way to Tipperary," and they wanted to see the moving-pictures, but even at their most hilarious moments it was not at all difficult to get them to sing hymns, and they would listen to a religious address with close attention.

During our five weeks at Camp the Religious Work Committee held 126 services at which were over one hundred and eight thousand men. In addition to this we distributed thousands of tracts and Gospels, and assisted the British and Foreign Bible Society to distribute Testaments to the men. Our own Council presented Song Books to the men, and they were certainly appreciated.

Our largest service was held nightly at the large government moving-picture board in the open air. The attendance at this service varied from four thousand to ten thousand. We held a short twenty-minute service with hymns and addresses before the show. We were always received very enthusiastically by the men and our speaker was always cheered to the echo.

Every evening we held a service in connection with our own moving-picture tent. There was always at least a thousand men present, and they were just as eager to sing hymns and hear the Gospel message as they were to see the moving-picture film.

In addition to these services we held camp-fires at six different points, and the attendance at these would vary from fifty to

five hundred. On Sunday afternoon whenever possible several parties were formed and short services with addresses were held down the lines among the tents of the different battalions.

"Don't Swear or the Fish Won't Bite," was the slogan of a very popular and successful campaign against profanity. Alluminum medals with "Don't Swear" upon them were used with telling effect among the men. When a man swore in our canteen one of our men would say, "Here's a medal for you," and present him with one of these rebukes. This very often had a permanent effect. In connection with this campaign there were several anti-swearing clubs organized by the soldiers. The men agreed to fine themselves every time they swore. This system worked splendidly and many stopped swearing entirely owing to them.

The men in one of the tents of a Montreal Regiment began the day every morning by singing, "O God our help in ages past," and closed it with the hymn, "Jesus Lover of my Soul."

Among the two thousand men who signed cards professing conversion was a man who had been in the British army for fourteen years. He had served under Kitchener in Egypt and in South Africa, and had served at home in the Grenadier Guards. He enlisted at Valcartier under the King of kings.

A bugler who was only sixteen years of age enlisted with Christ at one of our meetings the night before he left with his regiment for Quebec.

One night at our moving-picture show the men were charmed by hearing a beautiful bass solo. The singer was a former opera singer who through drink had been in danger of losing his voice. He was at Camp with a Toronto Regiment and was converted at our meetings. A shake of his hand would convince one that he meant business.

CORRESPONDING MEMBERS ASSIST.

The National Council asked the help of the representatives in smaller places to secure money for the work with Canadian soldiers and a number have cheerfully responded. Some have solicited subscriptions, others have arranged campaigns for a general canvass, and still others have interested some Young Peoples' Society or Bible Class to put through an entertainment for this work. The results are very encouraging. Among those who have reported are the following: Thamesville, per month, $5; Thedford, Melrose, Lonsdale, Princeton and Bowmanville, $5 each; Camlachie, $65.55; Hillsburg, $19.25; Selkirk, $8; Yarker, $15; Bothwell, $56.75; Inwood, $98; Cardinal, $10; Granton, Niagara Falls, Centralia, Spencerville, each $50; Delaware, $200; Bruce Mines, $35.45; Tiverton, $6; Stevensville, $11; Folden's Corners, $10; Simcoe, $77.70; Florence, $3; Ladies Auxiliary Y.M.C.A., London, $50. At several other points an effort is under way now, or to be undertaken soon.

GENEROUS CO-OPERATION.

Part of the financial responsibility for the Y.M.C.A. men who have gone overseas with the Canadian soldiers has been generously assumed by the Ontario Provincial W.C.T.U., Toronto; Bloor Street Presbyterian Church and West End Association, who each take care of the salary of a man.

OTHER SOLDIER WORK NEWS.

Forty-three consecutive years of work for the soldiers at Niagara-on-the-Lake gave the experience needed to grapple with and successfully meet the emergency presented by the great mobilization camp at Valcartier. Mr. T. J. Wilkie builded wiser than he knew when he inaugurated this work so long ago.

"Col." T. F. Best, chief of the staff, said that the Valcartier organization was an "all star" combination. There were national secretaries, general secretaries, physical directors, college graduates, preachers, professional men, commercial travellers, business men and students all uniting heartily and harmoniously in an endeavor to be of real practical service to the soldier boys. Seventy-eight different individuals assisted on this staff during the month the work was conducted.

One soldier was overheard describing the Y.M.C.A. as "The only place on the grounds without graft." Another man for whom a special service had been rendered said in a private interview which he requested that he had been watching the Association work for nine days to see where the graft was and had decided there was none. He further said that he had not attended church for fifteen years but now felt that he ought to "line up again."

Men walked two and three miles to patronize the Y.M.C.A., passing many other refreshment booths, saying, "Your prices are right; before you came they were robbing us." When the authorities decided to regulate the prices of goods sold in the various booths, there was only one article on which the Y.M.C.A. was asked to make a change.

The sanitary officers and camp inspectors always had a word of commendation for the way in which the Y.M.C.A. "compound" was kept.

Through the kindness and hearty co-operation of business firms and friends of the work in Toronto and Quebec a good supply of reading matter and writing material was supplied to our representatives to be distributed by them to the soldiers on ship board for use going over seas.

Steps were taken by our men to organize a Y.M.C.A. on board each ship where they are assigned. This work had been begun in most cases before the transports sailed from Quebec.

A Belgian Catholic priest, assigned as chaplain to one of the transports, when he learned that there was a Y.M.C.A. representative on board sought him out and volunteered and sought for co-operation in the work to be done for the men.

GENEROUS GIVERS.

Many thousand copies of "Songs for Soldiers" were produced and given the men at Valcartier Camp through the co-operative work of the Methodist Book and Publishing House, the Ratcliff Paper Company, W. J. Gage and Company, Brown Brothers, and Don Valley Paper Company.

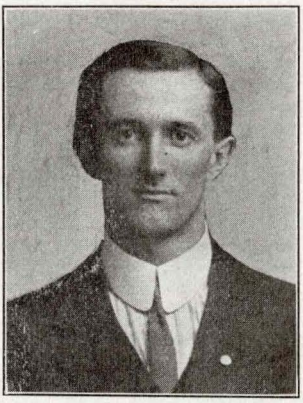
Messrs. Barber, Ellis Company gave large quantities of printed envelopes, Buntin and Reid, letter paper, and the Southam Press printed them. All the above are Toronto firms.

OUR REPRESENTATIVES OVERSEAS.

The National Council will have seven representatives with the First Canadian Overseas Contingent (see cut on page 43).

H. A. Pearson has been attached to the 1st Artillery Brigade; A. Pequegnat, with the 1st Battalion; Chris Graham, 15th Battalion; A. M. Forgie, 16th Battalion; O. D. Irwin, 9th Battalion; Harry Whiteman, 12th Battalion.

W. W. Lee has been selected to act as special officer at the Base to work in conjunction with the Red Cross and other organizations, to co-operate with our representatives at the front and to act as intermediary between them and the National Council. As soon as Mr. Lee's address is known it will be announced so that letters and gifts for the soldiers may be sent in his care, to be forwarded to their proper destination. "Forwarding Depots" are being arranged for at Quebec and Halifax through the local Y.M.C.A.'s where parcels and large consignments can be sent and from which they will be forwarded to the parties for whom they are intended.



W. W. Lee, Immigration Secretary National Council, now on his way to England as the seventh representative with Canadian Soldiers.

The Military Field Service Committee of the National Council stands ready to continue the special work to further contingents as they may be mobilized, and will send other representatives with the soldiers so far as permitted by the military authorities.

Military Field Service Department.

The work to be undertaken in the future for the soldiers, both volunteer and regular, will be directed by a national committee of which Maj. F. H. Deacon is chairman, and will be known as "The Military Field Service Department." The chairmen of the Territorial Committees on Militia and Cadet Work will be members of this national committee. As at present constituted the committee consists of Maj. F. H. Deacon and Lt.-Col. J. G. Langton, of Ontario; W. H. Wiggs, of Quebec; E. W. Newcombe, of Maritime Provinces, and H. J. Snell, of Western Provinces.

Now that the Associations have demonstrated so successfully their ability to be of real value and service to the soldiers, and the work has met with such hearty approval from both officers and men, it is no visionary thing to believe that we are entering upon a new era in this line of activity. Not only so but public attention having been drawn to this phase of work it is but fair to suppose that the whole range of our work will be effected favorably by it.

WORK AT VALCARTIER CAMP.

Rev. W. A. Cameron, of Bloor Street Baptist Church, rendered effective service at Valcartier. The following extracts are from an article in the "Toronto Weekly Star."

Over thirty thousand men in the Valcartier camp! The feeding of so large a number is no light task for the commissariat department. But how about their spiritual needs? To cater for them is also a tremendous task—and a tremendous opportunity. For these men have left their normal way of life, left it to fight, and, if need be, to die, for their country. They are up against—and very many of them for the first time in their lives—great, and grim and elemental things. They have been taken out of themselves. They know that they are going out into the dark. But, side by side with that knowledge, they experience, in anticipation, something of that exaltation of spirit which is the effect of war's strange and stern mingling of supreme glory and supreme grief.

At such a moment men, so circumstanced, may be easily reached, may be easily touched to fine and spiritual issues. Beneath a superficial cheerfulness, and even levity, many and many of them hide a real and a deep seriousness. They are asking themselves how it stands with them; how they stand in relation to the things of lasting moment—the things that are God's. They can be easily reached—if it be the right man who essays to reach them. But not every parson can preach to such a congregation as can be gathered, in its thousands, at Valcartier camp, it is not learned disquisitions, nor oratorical flourishings, nor theological subtleties, that are needed there. What is needed is the voice of man speaking from his heart, straight to the heart of his brother man, the simple message of the simple Gospel.

A Unique Opportunity.

Foremost amongst the agencies which are endeavoring to supply the men's spiritual wants is the Y.M.C.A. It was that organization which was responsible for the five days of evangelistic work which the Rev. W. A. Cameron, of Bloor Street Baptist Church, put in at the camp last week. Seen by "The Star Weekly," Mr. Cameron was obviously very deeply impressed with the unique opportunity of saving souls which is afforded there just now.

"The opportunity is there," he said, "and it is a unique one. There is much to be thankful for. But a needed effort is being made by the Y.M.C.A. to increase the number of its services. When I got there I found a Y.M.C.A. staff of thirty-two—a Methodist minister from Quebec, an Anglican one from Toronto, and a Baptist one from Toronto, and the rest laymen. Six meetings were held daily, including two large meetings in the evening. On my first night I preached in the Y.M.C.A. tent. This, which held about fifteen hundred, was full, and there were perhaps another five hundred just outside. The service was interspersed with songs and hymns. At its close I asked any who would like a more intimate talk to stay, and a hundred and twenty men waited."

"One man, in describing his own state of mind, gave expression to what I am sure was the pretty general sentiment. 'Parson,' he said, 'I am not afraid of war, but I am afraid of dying without God.' "

Confession of Sin.

"Dying without God! Many—very many—of them had lived without Him (and admitted the fact) practically all their lives long. It is impossible to "lump" the men at the Valcartier camp as being all of a type. For, as a fact, they are not of one type, but of all, or almost all types, from the highly intellectual student to the man whose strength is muscular rather than mental. But there are among them a tremendous number who normally never enter God's House, who acknowledged that it is ten, fifteen, or twenty years since they last entered a place of worship, whose indifference to religion had become a habit, who were not accustomed ever to give a thought to God.

"Numbers of such men," said Mr. Cameron, "found themselves, after long years of indifference, at grips with fundamental spiritual realities. They wanted to save their souls alive. And there was an absolute frankness about them. They did not simulate repentance for any ulterior motive—there was nothing to be gained by posing as repentant. But I don't think, of all the prayers I heard, that I heard a single one which did not commence with a confession of sin. 'Lord, be merciful to me a sinner'—that was the burden of it."

"At what should I estimate the total conversions? Impossible to say. I did not have more than from sixty to seventy real heart-to-heart talks, and I could not estimate results even approximately. But I know that the habit of private prayer is largely on the increase among the men. The camp is really remarkable for its sobriety. And numbers of men are making a determined effort to stamp out the profanity which was, perhaps, the worst feature."

Singing and Cheering.

On Mr. Cameron's second night, and thenceforth during his stay, he preached at the Government's moving picture show. This show starts at eight o'clock, and the men come about an hour before then, in order to make sure of seats. And it was during that hour that the Y.M.C.A. services were held. Mr. Cameron usually preached for about half an hour, and, on his last night, he had a congregation of about seven thousand. The men cheered points that appealed to them in the sermon—they particularly liked military illustrations—and national songs and hymns figured in the service—"I had never heard singing before," said Mr. Cameron.

PRACTICAL PRAISE FROM A BUSINESS MAN.

"I am enclosing a cheque for Twenty-Five Dollars as a contribution towards the Y.M.C.A. camp at Valcartier. I was delighted to see how promptly your Association took hold of this matter as I know what a boon it will be to the men there."

A General Secretary writes:—I just happened to hear of a man who has been at Valcartier. Two years ago he got drunk one evening during the winter—snow on the ground—came home and drove his wife and her two or three days' old baby out of the house. That is a sample. He always regretted his sprees and seemed to *want* to do better but had no power.

He now writes home to his sister telling of what the Y.M.C.A. is doing, and of what it means to him. He says, perhaps you will find it hard to believe, "but I never miss a meeting," and she says, "You know we could never get him to go to church."

FROM A LETTER FROM ONE OF THE SOLDIER BOYS AT VALCARTIER.

"Secretary of the Y.M.C.A., Woodstock.

"Dear Sir:—I have been to the Y.M.C.A. meetings for some time, and as you told me when I was with you that you would like to have come along with me, I thought I would drop you a line and try to give you some of the good things the 'Y' is doing. They hold about six or seven different meetings in a night. There is a big camp-fire with about 2,000 or 3,000 men gathered around and sing. There is also a big canvass store, but the camp-fire has the largest crowd at night. The men take part in the singing, and last night about twenty at one meeting gave their hearts to God, so to-night there are about four men that spoke and it sure was grand. The 'Y' is doing a lot of good to us boys in Camp, and are putting on every post, 'Don't swear, for the fish won't bite' and when we hear a man swear that is our motto. Anything we want at Quebec they get for us, in other words, they are fathers to us and the boys all look to them."

EXTRACTS FROM LETTERS TO THE SECRETARY OF THE SHERBROOKE ASSOCIATION.

"Am glad to say that the Y.M.C.A. is doing great work. Besides keeping up a very serviceable canteen, they supply paper and envelopes, give a free moving picture show every night and organize concerts and all sorts of games.

"When I am benefiting from these sacrifices on the part of the Y.M.C.A. men, I must say I always am proud of the fact that I joined the Association long ago. It is very popular at camp and deservedly so."

"The Y.M.C.A. is doing a great work. We certainly have cause to be proud of our Association. The canteen is a splendid one. Their post-office, etc., and willingness to help everybody cannot be praised too highly. The evening camp-fire and service get right hold of the boys and is looked forward to daily by hundreds."

"I have heard a good many of the soldiers say that the Y.M.C.A. was the squarest thing on the grounds, and that they were more than pleased with the way they had been treated."

REPORT LETTER FROM MR. HARRY WHITEMAN.

September 30th, 1914.

".....I came aboard the 'Scotian' to-day, attached to the 12th Battalion. I am comfortably located and looking forward to a good work amongst the men.

"Our Quebec regiment is in this Battalion, so that I shall have a nucleus of workers from the outset. The officers are

all very cordial to the idea of a Y.M.C.A. man being on board, having in mind the service rendered at Camp.

"I have found great pleasure, and esteem it a privilege to have had a part in the work at Valcartier. The experience has been a revelation to me of the wonderful possibilities of our work to affect men's lives, and I enter this new field of overseas service with a stronger faith and deeper enthusiasm than I could have done without the Valcartier experience.

"To-night, as I sail away from Canada's shores into the unknown future, it is a great consolation to know that the prayers of the friends at home are lifted in our behalf; and I humbly pray that I may be a useful servant in the great work to which we have set our hands."

EXTRACTS FROM REPORT LETTER FROM MR. A. W. FORCIE.

On board the Cunard SS. "Andania,"
Tuesday, Sept. 29th, 1914.

Men and officers alike seem to be pleased to have a Y.M.C.A. man on board, and have given us a great reception on every quarter. I came on board last evening for dinner, got my things straightened out, met some of the officers and a few men, but was afraid to wander far from home for fear of getting lost.

This morning we pulled out into midstream, and I shed my tunic and stars and donned a sweater coat, and got busy among the men. I posted notices calling a meeting of members and ex-members of Y.M.C.A.'s, and to-night had thirty of these together and formed the SS. "Andania" Young Men's Christian Association, with Col. Leckie as Honorary President and Color-Sergt. Rankin, of Montreal Central, as President. We have committees to look after Deck Sports, Entertainments, Meetings, and Literature, with some mighty good men to swing these features on each.

We decided on the room we wanted, and the Saloon Steward has promised to have it cleared out for us to-night. We also decided to ask the privilege of having the last half-hour—9 to 9.30—of the time around the piano in the Men's Messroom for a hymn service and a short talk. After telling the men of the formation of the Association, we forthwith put on our first service, about 150 men being present. We had Canon Scott speak for a few minutes.

The men who form the Association are to meet for Bible Study every morning, so that we will develop a real fellowship in service. We may have another class for others also. We are to have a magazine exchange, give out stationery, etc. Things are most promising for a strong work on board, and we hope to confirm the great expectation you have for this work.

Turning to more personal matters, I may say that I begin to feel quite at home in a soldier's outfit, and am trying to conduct myself as an officer should.

We are on a very fair liner; in fact, the officers' quarters are quite elaborate. We have all the first-class accommodation—library, writing, lounging-rooms and dining saloon, including meals a la "King Edward," which provides a temptation three times a day to eat fussy dishes, and too many of them. This, however, I am carefully avoiding.

I am bunked with Captain Beatty, Presbyterian Chaplain of the 16th Battalion. We have a fine stateroom with four berths. We have deck and bath stewards galore to look after our comfort. It is surprising what a couple of stars will do, although, as I have already indicated, I do not expect ever to be seen below deck with them on. The salutes and sir-ing spoil the contact I want with the men.

All the men on board—1,500 or more—are from the brigade to which I am attached, the 3rd. They are the Seaforth Highlanders, Vancouver; Gordons, from Victoria; Camerons, from Winnipeg, and 91st from Hamilton. We have also half of the Royal Rifles of Montreal, and the Divisional Signal Corps.

One can feel that God has a great work to be done, and you can rest assured that your continued prayers are being answered.

ATHLETIC SOLDIERS.

The report of the work in the physical department at Valcartier makes an interesting showing. During the three weeks there were a total of 211 men taking part in baseball, 230 in football, 1,100 in athletics—with an aggregate of 9,980 in all events, and spectators estimated at 35,200.

The Baseball Tournament had 18 Regiments represented, the Association Football Tournament had 33 Regiments represented, and the finals were decided in both tournaments. The 10th Royal Grenadiers of Toronto won the honors in baseball. The 21st Regiment of Walkerville and Windsor won the championship in football. Silk ribbon badges were presented to men in winning teams; Football presented to the Manager of football champions. 32 track and field events were decided, 2 events held each evening for which silk badges were presented to the 1st, 2nd and 3rd men.

THE BRITISH Y.M.C.A.—ARMY WORK.

The British Association Movement is meeting the exceptional opportunities and responsibilities caused by the war in a courageous and enterprising way. The September issue of the "British Empire Y.M.C.A. Review" is full of interesting details, a few of which we mention.

The work to which they are committed is likely to cost £50,000 ($243,000), and £20,000 of this had been promised in the first month.

Nearly four hundred points where His Majesty's troops are centered are covered by the workers, with and without equipment.

Sir Ian Hamilton, the General Officer commanding the Central Force, writes: "You and your Association seem to be truly hitting the nail on the head and working for the good of our soldier lads. I have watched the Y.M.C.A. procedure at many camps and have found it exactly adapted to the wants of large numbers of young men temporarily away from their homes and normal associations."

General H. S. Smith-Dorrien wrote: "No one appreciates more than I do the enormous amount of good done by the Y.M.C.A., and how this Association is always ready to come forward in the most unselfish way to look after the comfort and happiness of the soldier."

Canon Walter Hicks, Prebendary of Lincoln, spent some weeks in the Y.M.C.A. tents in various camps, assisting in the work. He says, in part, "Many officers, non-commissioned officers and innumerable men in the ranks have told me how much they value and appreciate the Y.M.C.A. work in camp."

The Archbishop of Canterbury presented a large marquee with equipment for Association use.

The chaplains are working in hearty sympathy with the Y.M.C.A. men.

Providing soft drinks and tea and coffee has greatly lessened the consumption of liquor. It is estimated that only 15% of beer is now consumed.

London Central Building has been used as a recruiting office and barracks with 2,000 men billeted there at times.

TWELFTH YEAR OF THE LAKE COUCHICHING SUMMER SCHOOL.

Chas. W. Bishop.

SCHOOL PROGRAMME.

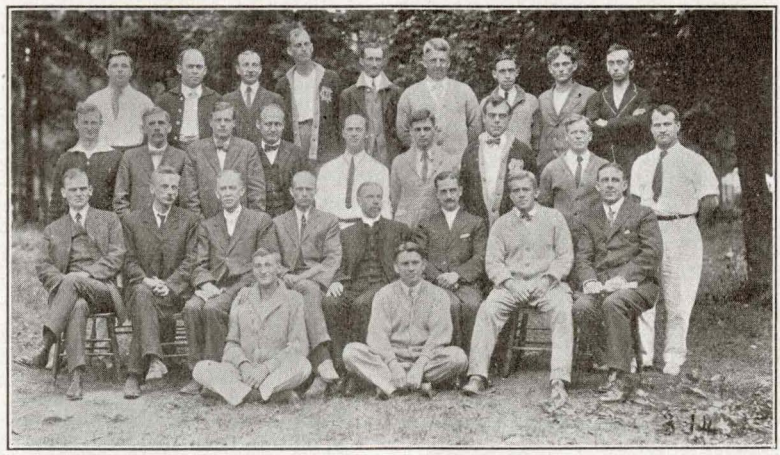
This year's session of the Training School at Lake Couchiching held its closing exercises on Thursday, August the 13th, when ten men who had completed their three years' course received graduating diploma of the School. Prof. C. E. Bland, of Edmonton, Alberta, was the speaker, and Chas. W. Bishop, National Secretary, presided.

The students in attendance numbered 122 as compared with 108 in 1913 and 72 in 1912. The banner Institute of the Four that made up the School was the Physical, with a registration of 47. They were distributed by territories as follows:—Maritime Provinces 10, Ontario and Quebec 94, and the Western Provinces 14. The remaining four came from the United States. The notable feature of the attendance was the delegation from the Maritime Provinces whose Associations have not participated in the School in past years.

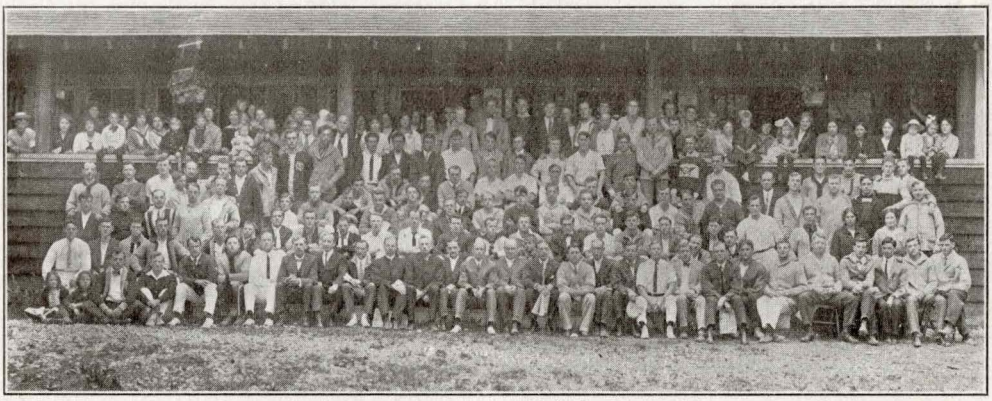
The faculty was of more than usual strength this season. It included Dr. Walter Rauschenbusch, of Rochester; Prof. H. H. Horne, of New York; Dr. Wm. Byron Forbush, of Philadelphia; Mr. W. J. Davison, of Albany, and Prof. C. E. Bland, of Edmonton. An interesting fact was that of the entire number of thirty-five instructors, twenty-six were Canadians, the largest percentage the School has ever had, indicating the increasing leadership that the movement in Canada is developing.

The influence which the School exerts on the whole Canadian movement is indicated by the fact that of the total number of students, 87 were employed officers of Canadian Associations, or about 34 per cent. of the total employed force in the country. Not only in attendance but in the quality of instruction and the thoroughness of the work done by the students the School showed marked advancement over any previous year.

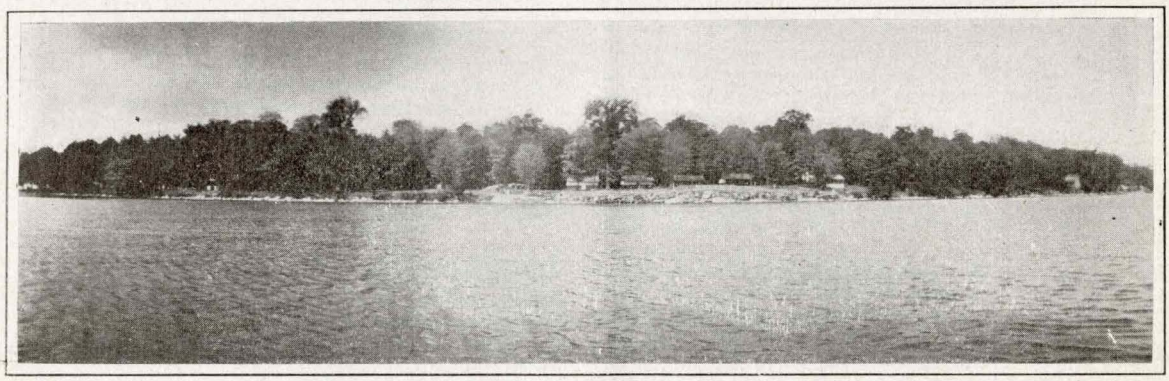
The physical conditions at this School are more simple than at the older Schools in the United States, and the committee is under considerable disability this year from lack of funds. The property is beautiful in character and in situation, and has great possibilities for development. The Canadian Associations are steadily awakening to the large contribution the School has made and will make. It is a leading factor in the pronounced success of the national movement launched a few years ago.



Faculty, Summer School, Lake Couchiching, 1914.



Summer School, Lake Couchiching, 1914.



Shore Line, Lake Couchiching School Property.

ATTENDANCE AT LAKE COUCHICHING.

Continued advancement marked the operations at the Lake Couchiching home of the Canadian Training School of the Young Men's Christian Associations. The total attendance was larger, the service was better, and the results greater than before.

The importance of the Y.M.C.A. Summer Institute is surely gripping the employed officers, and slowly the Boards of Directors are awakening to its great value. Every Association worker who knows the "worthwhileness" of the Lake Couchiching Summer School and Camp should be an active missionary in making known its merits.

The details of attendance for the past three years follow:—

	1912.	1913.	1914.
Y.W.C.A. Girls' Camps (three camps 1912-13 and two in 1914)....	87	109	71
Older Boys' Conference (first year)	...	...	85
Baptist School (held at Woodstock, 1914) ...	56	75	...
Presbyterian School ..	140	126	158
Ontario S.S. Association School	25	34	59
Y.M.C.A. School	150	223	234
Cottagers, transients and help	100	132	118
Totals	577	680	725

The attendance in 1911 was about 300 persons.

Over 22,000 meals were served in 1914 compared with some 19,000 in 1913.

COUCHICHING NOTES.

High Days at Lake Couchiching.

The outdoor services each Sunday beside the lapping waters, under the canopy of green leaves and summer sky, and each privileged participant drinking tonic-laden air and receiving inspired messages from sincere and able messengers, stand out as "high" days in the memory. It is interesting to note the better hearing and receiving attitude and capacity of the people so favored. It is a good thing to break away at times from our artificial surroundings in formal buildings and worship as earlier man did.

Pyjama Parade.

The students debated the suggestion of the management that this relic of barbarism be discarded, and decided to leave it behind this year and in future. The result was marked, and proved conclusively the wisdom of the decision in an almost complete absence of "horse-play" throughout the School period, and without the loss of a day from study, which always followed a pyjama parade night.

Spiritual Gain.

The regular school programme was practical and of great excellence, and the majority of the men appropriated much instruction, but an equally important gain was the spiritual blessing secured from devotional periods in Institute and Group meetings and in the "quiet hours." Many also were benefited by the personal interviews with members of the faculty and with others of ripe experience and spiritual warmth.

The Camp Physician.

Dr. R. Gordon Struthers, who rendered this service most acceptably this year and last year, also had a busy time with ailments and accidents of a minor nature. A new departure was made this year by vote of the students in assessing each person fifty cents for medical services instead of making a charge for each case.

SUMMER SCHOOL NEEDS.

The question has been asked, "What do you require at Geneva Park that might be contributed?" The reply is as follows:—

A platform table and chair.
Six fire extinguishers.
Two extension ladders.
A baby organ.
One hundred and forty students' chairs.
A water roller for the tennis courts.
A large refrigerator.

These are among the minor needs, any person desiring information of others involving from $500 to $5,000, will please write for particulars.

BY-THE-WAY.

E. R. Thurlow, of the Ottawa Association, is the radiant father of a son, who made his advent into this upset world on Sept. 20th.

Stratford Association celebrated the tenth anniversary of the opening of the present building on Sept. 20th and 21st. Messrs. G. Tower Ferguson, Toronto, and J. W. Ward, General Secretary, Hamilton, spoke in churches on Sunday, and a luncheon was held on Monday evening.

Charles A. Ball, assistant at Bridgeburg, Ont., R.R. Association, left Quebec, August 26th, for England to join his regiment for service in Europe. Mr. Wm. Rolfe, General Secretary, says: "He was much appreciated, and carried on, in connection with the Association, a splendid work among the boys."

"Canadian Manhood" extends greetings and congratulations to the Detroit Young Men's Christian Association on its having reached and passed successfully its fiftieth milestone, and in this connection would mention especially the names of Messrs. Frank D. Taylor and Leonard Laurense, the two charter members still surviving, and still in active service in the work for young men.

THE NATIONAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR CO-OPERATION IN BOY'S WORK.

During the past few years the conviction has been growing on the members of the Boys' Work Committee of the National Council that there should be more unity of effort and programme on the part of the various bodies endeavoring to promote the Kingdom of our Master through work with boys in Canada.

This came to a head at the last January meeting of the committee, when a resolution was passed authorizing the Secretary to attempt to call a meeting of the national leaders of the Protestant denominational Sunday Schools and the International Sunday School Association to discuss co-operation.

The first meeting was held in Toronto on May 13th. It was thoroughly representative, and, after ten hours of discussion, a plan of National Co-operation was agreed upon. During May and June each of the participating bodies held meetings at which the general plans of co-operation were sanctioned, and representatives appointed to the National Advisory Committee on Co-operation in Boys' Work.

The organization meeting was held in Toronto on July 10th. Committees were appointed on Boys' Work Conferences, Literature and Statistics, and Community Work: and nine men accepted the task of organizing Provincial Advisory Committees in each of the Provinces.

The third and latest meeting was held on September 24th. The reports were most gratifying. Every Province, with the exception of British Columbia, Manitoba and Quebec, had already organized Provincial Advisory Committees, consisting of representatives from the Denominational Sunday School organizations, the Provincial Sunday School Association, and the Young Men's Christian Association.

The policies presented by the committees were most comprehensive.

In future all Boys' Work Conferences and Institutes will be promoted by this co-operating body. The Canadian Standard Efficiency Tests and other literature on Boys' Work will be issued by this committee. Canadian statistics on boy life will be compiled, and in a multitude of ways this new organization will reveal its usefulness.

The officers of the National Advisory Committee are:—

Chairman . . . . . Mr. Frank Yeigh.
Vice-Chairman . . . . . Mr. L. J. Ball.
Treasurer . . . . . Mr. A. G. Browning.
Secretary . . . . . Mr. Taylor Statten.

The Executive consists of the above officers and the Secretaries of the co-operating bodies resident in Ontario and Quebec, and W. G. Watson, W. C. Turney, H. W. Brown and Dr. C. J. Copp.

The Committee Chairmen are:—

Boys' Work Conferences . . . . . Rev. C. A. Myers.
Literature and Statistics . . . . . Rev. F. L. Farewell.
Community Boys' Work . . . . . R. G. Dingman.

CANADIAN STANDARD EFFICIENCY TESTS FOR BOYS.

During the past month, Mr. Statten has been in almost continuous session with the various representatives of the Protestant Denominational Sunday School Boards, concerning the Canadian Standard Efficiency Tests. The programme, which has been considerably changed, will now be the official plan of work for boys for the Church of England, the Presbyterian Church, the Methodist Church, the Baptist Church and the Congregational Church.

The general plan of promotion is to have a few organized classes in each denomination and group in the Y.M.C.A. experiment with the tests this year. They call for about 25 mid-week sessions, each session taking up Bible Study, a Practical Talk, and a Test. The plan of work includes eight different activities in each of the four sides of development. All who have seen the proof copies claim that it is the most complete and comprehensive programme of work for boys that has yet been arranged. It is hoped that every Association in Canada will have at least one group taking up the entire scheme. The Toronto Central Association has organized the entire department on this basis.

OTHER LANDS.

The first Convention of Associations in South America met in Montevideo, Uruguay, May 29th—June 9th, with sixty attending. Some delegates were away from home and work for a month, travelling from five to seven days by sea.

Among the results was the drawing up of a religious work policy for South American Associations and the outlining of a five-year programme for the continent and the formation of the "South American Federation of Young Men's Christian Associations."

At Peking, China, the interest in Bible Study is keen. After close revision of the rolls there are 751 attending.

In seeking leaders for teaching government students, ninety-eight students in one school volunteered to go into training to prepare for that work. Many others in other schools also responded to the call.

Fletcher S. Brockman held a series of evangelistic services at Hong Kong for students. The only available room held 350 and was crowded. There were 300 enquirers, including some of the strongest leaders, of these twenty-seven signed as a league to make the University Christian.

The Bangalore, India, Association is doing big business in its building, but goes outside as well. By request of the Government it cared for 4,000 soldiers at a concentration camp at Deca. The Governor of Bengal ascribed the improved behaviour of the men to the influence exerted by the Association. The Government paid the entire cost. A high official said, "The only work that has given me a real conception of Christianity as a character changing force is your Y.M.C.A. work for soldiers."

At Lake Geneva, Wisconsin, this summer, of 800 students at the Conference 131 were delegates from foreign countries.

A Mohammedan in India being asked to name the public institutions in Hyderabad mentioned several, but concluded by saying, "But the one that is worth the most is the Young Men's Christian Association, it is helping our young men."

CROCKER IN CHINA.

A report letter of July tells of the important work which Mr. J. H. Crocker is engaged in in China. The National Committee loaned his services for six months to act as manager for the Far Eastern Olympic Games. He has a committee of great strength co-operating with him. This includes an ex-Chinese Minister to the United States as chairman, also the first premier of the new Republic, a managing director of a big railway, the manager of a cotton mill employing 1,500 hands, a cashier of a bank, and the President of the Chinese Chamber of Commerce.

Mr. Crocker with a member of the committee spent ten days in Peking and secured the good-will and patronage of President Yuan Shi Kai who contributed $2,000 personally, and other ministers various amounts totalling $5,600.

When asking these men for support they replied, "It is not a question for us to decide. You are doing so much for the young men of China that it is our duty to help you."

The north and south have been organized and the centre will be later.

In May the Second National Games were held at Peking and were very successful, 388 athletes took part, and Mr. Crocker says, "Their good sportsmanship is not excelled in any land. They fought their races with a determination which showed strong self-control, grit and daring."

Mr. Crocker's activities included a visit to Hong Kong to meet delegates from Siam and the Philippines to arrange details for an International meet to be held at Shanghai..

Four nations have joined the Far East Athletic Association, including Siam, the latest to go in.

The Japanese are looking upon the undertaking with coldness. Crocker spent thirteen days in Japan in a warming up process which was successful. They promised forty or more men to participate in the next meet and to invite the Third Games to be held in Japan in 1916.

After telling of other work in Shanghai in connection with Far Eastern Games, Mr. Crocker concludes:—

Is all this worth while? In addition to the inspiration and help which the young men will get as a direct result, we are training a large group of men, both old and young, in Committee service; and they are acquiring a great vision of playgrounds, parks, and graded systematic work for public schools. It is our hope that a well selected group of these men will become a permanent National Committee to do physical welfare work for all China. Through their influence we want to introduce to the Minister of Education at Peking, a scheme for organizing and incorporating physical education into their new Public School System.

When Prof. Robertson and Willard Lyon did the first work in Peking and Tientsin, it was just like throwing a pebble into a pond. The little rings of the first splash were small, but as effort increased so have

the waves of action until now they extend east and west and north and south over the whole Empire. Wherever there are institutions who will organize young men there are willing men and boys seeking the new activities, Western ideas and power.

As I write a fearful shock has been received. The great European War has begun. Japan has issued her ultimatum to Germany, and now our peace-loving China is to be a scene of warfare. The sober-minded Chinese administrators are feeling very keenly the terrible possibilities of such International strife on the borders of their country.

Our Committee has now decided not to hold the Games this fall but to postpone them until next May. This fits into our plans splendidly. It leaves me free to work in the Association, Schools and Colleges during the busy school year, and it also makes it possible for China to be better prepared for the great athletic contest among the young men of the East.

I wonder if my readers realize the wisdom of this type of work, and what it is accomplishing. Come with me and visit some of the old schools where there is no ventilation, and total ignorance of the simplest rules of hygiene. Then follow me to the Young Men's Christian Association or some Mission School and see the difference.

Come into the towns. On the streets we will pass cases of smallpox mingling freely with old and young. Here is a young man with a cough and a pain in his lungs. He thinks it is in his muscles and wears a poultice of the filthiest concoction and a red cloth to take away the devil.

Come higher up in the social scale. Here is a group of students who do not believe the old teachings—they do not know the new. They ignore the approach of the foreigner on religious topics, but their interest is caught by athletic activities. They catch the inspiration, come closer—become friendly. Through our homes and social life they gather confidence in us, and determine to know the source of our strength.

So we find these young men in our Bible classes, social clubs, and meetings, earnestly seeking to know the truth; and this is the great joy that we have of seeing these young men come to the Well of Living Waters to be washed and healed and made fruitful in Christ.

J. H. Crocker.

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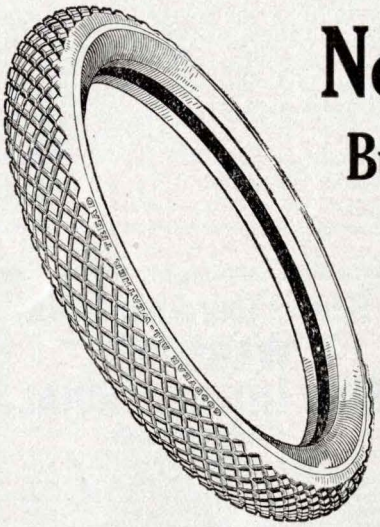

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(Revised to October, 1914)

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Bridgeburg	Wm. Rolfe		
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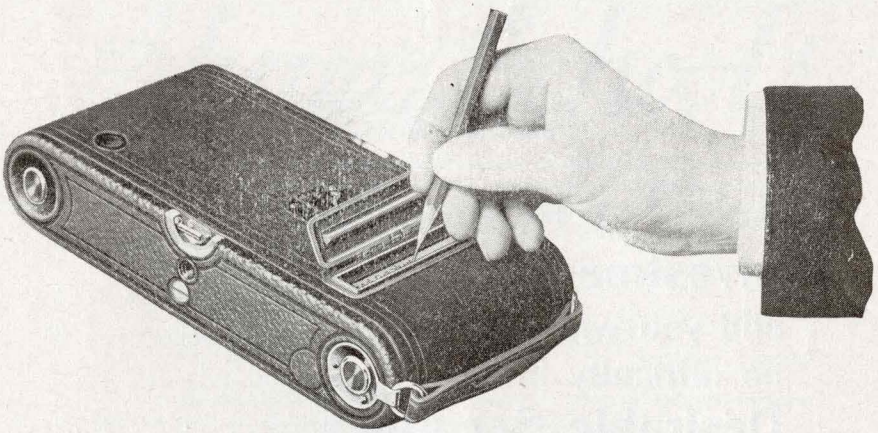

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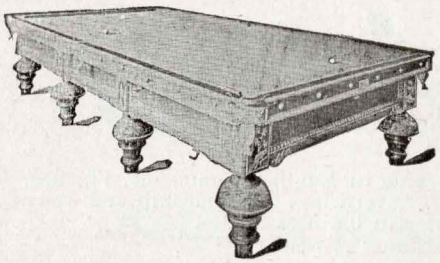

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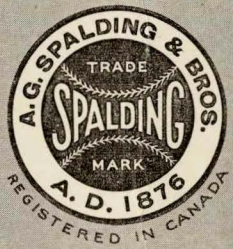

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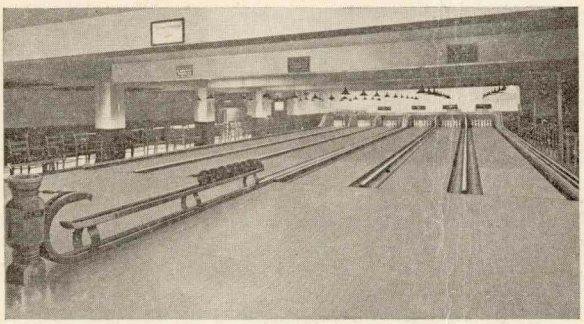

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